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Fishermen's Co-operative Federation (nomination)

* 1202 *Q.*—SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the names of those nominated by the Government for the following bodies :—

(i) President of Fishermen's Co-operative Federation, Kanyakumari;

(ii) State Advisory Board for Fisheries; and

(iii) Central Advisory Board for Fisheries?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : (i) The Government are not nominating the Presidents of the Fishermen Co-operative Federations. They are elected by the members of the governing body of the Federations.

(ii) The non-official members of the State Advisory Board for Fisheries are—

(*a*) *Representatives of Fisheries interest on the marine side*—

1. Sri A. M. Simon, President, Kanyakumari Fishermen Co-operative Federation, Nagercoil.

2. Sri C. Machado, President, Tirunelveli Fishermen Co-operative Federation, Tuticorin.

3. Sri P. Ulaganatha Chettiar, President, Madras-Chingleput District (Marine) Fishermen Co-operative Federation, Madras.

4. Sri G. Vagheesam Pillai, M.L.A., President, South Arcot District Fishermen Co-operative Federation, Chidambaram.

(*b*) *Representatives of Fisheries interest on the inland side*—

5. Sri P. S. K. Lakshmipathi Raju, M.L.A., President, Palni Taluk Fishermen Co-operative Society, Palni.

6. Sri N. Mariappa Manigarar, President, Parvatharajakula Sangham, Karunthattankudi, Thanjavur.

7. Sri Narayana Bhakthar, President, Sankari Taluk Congress Committee, Idappadi P.O., Salem District.

8. Sri V. M. Natesa Nattar, President, Madras State Parvatharajakula Sangham, Madras.

(*c*) *Representatives of co-operative banking interest*—

9. Dr. P. Natesan, Director of Madras State Co-operative Bank, Madras.

(*d*) *Representative of chank fisheries interest*—

10. Sri Hajee Mohamed Abu Bucker of Messrs. A. M. S. S. V. M. and Company, Kilakarai, Ramanathapuram District.

(*e*) *Special members to represent general interests of Fishermen*—

11. Vidwan Muthukannappan, M.L.C., 'Avvaikudil' Adyar, Madras.

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12. Sri Murugesa Mudaliar, B.A., retired Deputy Secretary to Government, 51, Big Street, Triplicane, Madras.

(iii) This Board was constituted by the Government of India. The question of nominating any non-official member to this Board by this Government does not arise.

SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY : Was at any time the President of the Fishermen's Co-operative Federation, Kanyakumari, nominated by the Government ? If so, may I know who was the person so nominated ? With regard to the Central Advisory Board of Fisheries, may I know whether this Government was consulted on the question of nomination of anybody and if so, the reply sent by this Government to the Central Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : I have very clearly stated in my original answer that this Government are not nominating the Presidents of the Fishermen Co-operative Federations and that they are elected by the members of the governing body of the Federations. As such, I may again inform the hon. Member that in the Kanyakumari district, the Government have not nominated anybody as President of the Fishermen Co-operative Federation there.

As for the Central Advisory Board, I may again state that that Board was constituted by the Government of India. The members of that Board are not appointed in consultation with the State Government.

Dearth of qualified drivers (State Transport)

* 1203 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any dearth of qualified drivers in the State Transport Department; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to train more drivers?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To meet the immediate need, a few retired drivers, who are found medically fit, are being recruited and employed on daily wage basis temporarily.

It has also been proposed to start a course of training for qualified drivers, who may be available with the District Employment Exchanges in the State, for appointment in the Department after necessary training. The availability of qualified drivers with the Employment Exchanges is being ascertained through the Director of Employment.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Is there any proposal to increase the salary of the drivers with a view to attract more persons for the job ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is not a question of salary, but it is a question of lack of personnel.